

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

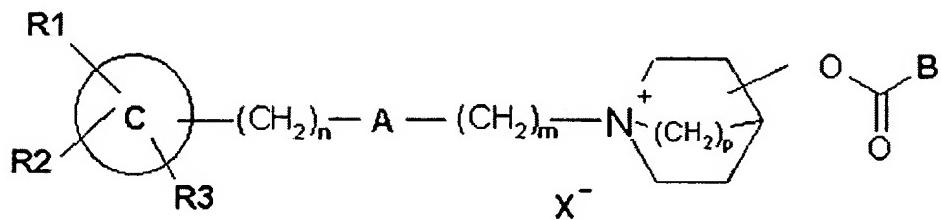
In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-35.

Please add new claims 36-63.

Claim 36 (new):

A compound according to formula (I)



(I)

wherein:

◎ is a phenyl ring, a C_4 to C_9 heteroaromatic group containing one or more heteroatoms or a naphthalenyl, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalenyl or biphenyl group;

R^1 , R^2 and R^3 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or halogen atom, or a hydroxy group, or a phenyl, $-OR^4$, $-SR^4$, $-NR^4R^5$, $-NHCOR^4$, $-CONR^4R^5$, $-CN$, $-NO_2$, $-COOR^4$ or $-CF_3$ group, or a straight or branched lower alkyl group which may optionally be substituted, for example, with a hydroxy or alkoxy group, wherein R^4 and R^5 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, straight or branched lower alkyl group or together form an alicyclic ring; or R^1 and R^2 together form an aromatic, alicyclic or heterocyclic ring,

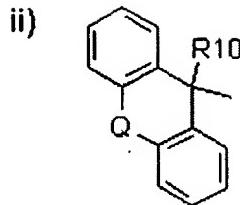
n is an integer from 0 to 4;

A represents a $-CH_2-$, $-CH=CR^6-$, $-CR^6=CH-$, $-CR^6R^7-$, $-CO-$, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-S(O)-$, SO_2 or $-NR^6-$ group, wherein R^6 and R^7 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, straight or branched lower alkyl group or R^6 and R^7 together form an alicyclic ring;

m is an integer from 0 to 8; provided that when $m = 0$, A is not $-CH_2-$;

p is an integer from 1 to 2 and the substitution in the azoniaromatic ring may be in the 2, 3 or 4 position including all possible configurations of the asymmetric carbons;

B represents a group of formula ii):



(I)

wherein R¹⁰ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy or methyl group; and Q represents a single bond, -CH₂-, -CH₂-CH₂-, -O-, -O-CH₂-, -S-, -S-CH₂- or -CH=CH-; and X represents a pharmaceutically acceptable anion of a mono or polyvalent acid.

Claim 37 (new): A compound according to claim 36, wherein any alkyl group present as R¹ to R⁷ or R¹¹ contains from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

Claim 38 (new): A compound according to claim 36 wherein p=2.

Claim 39 (new): A compound according to claim 36 wherein \textcircled{c} represents a phenyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, furyl, biphenyl, naphthalenyl, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalenyl, benzo[1,3]dioxolyl, imidazolyl or benzothiazolyl group.

Claim 40 (new): A compound according to claim 39, wherein \textcircled{c} represents a phenyl, pyrrolyl or thienyl group.

Claim 41 (new): A compound according to claim 36 wherein R¹, R² and R³ each independently represent a hydrogen or halogen atom or a hydroxy, methyl, tert-butyl, -CH₂OH, 3-hydroxypropyl, -OMe, -NMe₂, -NHCOMe, -CONH₂, -CN, -NO₂, -COOMe or -CF₃ group.

Claim 42 (new): A compound according to claim 41 wherein R¹, R² and R³ each independently represent a hydrogen or halogen atom or a hydroxy group.

Claim 43 (new): A compound according to claim 42, wherein the halogen atom is fluorine.

Claim 44 (new): A compound according claim 36 wherein A represents a -CH₂-, -CH=CH-, -CO-, -NH-, -NMe-, -O- or -S- group; n is 0 or 1; and m is an integer from 1 to 6.

Claim 45 (new): A compound according to claim 44, wherein A represents a -CH₂-, -CH=CH- or -O- group and m is 1, 2 or 3.

Claim 46 (new): A compound according claim 36 wherein the azoniabicyclo group is substituted on the nitrogen atom with a 3-phenoxypropyl, 2-phenoxyethyl, 3-phenylallyl, phenethyl, 3-phenylpropyl, 4-phenylbutyl, 3-(2-hydroxyphenoxy)propyl, 3-(4-fluorophenoxy)propyl, 2-benzyloxyethyl, 3-pyrrol-1-ylpropyl, 2-thien-2-ylethyl or 3-thien-2-ylpropyl group.

Claim 47 (new): A compound according claim 36, wherein Q represents a single bond, a -CH₂-, -CH₂-CH₂- group or an oxygen atom.

Claim 48 (new): A compound according claim 36 wherein X represents a bromide, chloride or trifluoroacetate anion.

Claim 49 (new): A compound according to claim 36 wherein the azoniabicyclo group is substituted in the 3-position.

Claim 50 (new): A compound according to claim 49, wherein the substituent in the 3 position has (R) configuration.

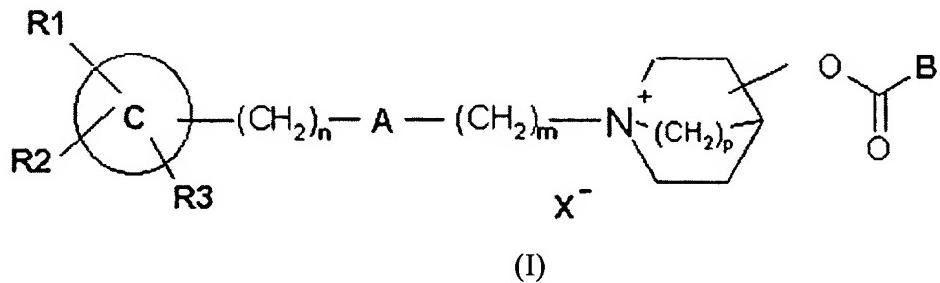
Claim 51 (new): A compound according to claim 36 which is a single stereoisomer.

Claim 52 (new): A compound according to claim 36 which is
1-(3-phenylallyl)-3(R)-(9-Hydroxy-9[H]-fluorene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane;
bromide
3(R)-(9-Hydroxy-9[H]-fluorene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1-azoniabicyclo
[2.2.2]octane; bromide
3(R)-(9-Hydroxy-9[H]-fluorene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-phenethyl-1-
azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide

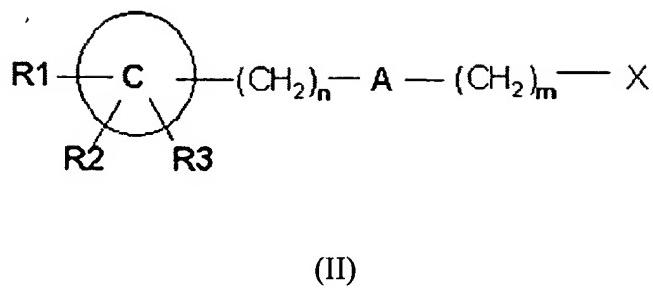
3(R)-(9-Hydroxy-9H-fluorene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-(3-thien-2-ylpropyl)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide
 3(R)-(9-Methyl-9[H]-fluorene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-(3-phenylallyl)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide
 3(R)-(9-Methyl-9[H]-fluorene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide
 1-(4-Phenylbutyl)-3(R)-(9[H]-xanthene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide
 1-(2-Phenoxyethyl)-3(R)-(9[H]-xanthene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide
 1-(3-Phenoxypropyl)-3(R)-(9[H]-xanthene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide
 1-Phenethyl-3(R)-(9[H]-xanthene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2] octane; bromide
 3(R)-(9-Hydroxy-9[H]-xanthene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1- azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide
 3(R)-(9-Hydroxy-9[H]-xanthene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-phenethyl-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide
 3(R)-(9-Hydroxy-9H-xanthene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-(3-thien-2-ylpropyl)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide or
 3(R)-(9-Methyl-9[H]-xanthene-9-carbonyloxy)-1-(3-phenoxy-propyl)-1-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane; bromide.

Claim 53 (new): A compound according to claim 36 characterised in that it has an IC₅₀ value for muscarinic M₃ receptors (Hm3) of less than 35 nM.

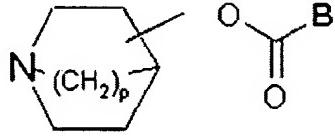
Claim 54 (new): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I)



which comprises reacting an alkylating agent of formula (II)



with a compound of formula (III)

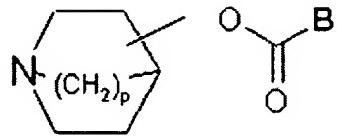


(III)

wherein, in each of formulae I, II and III, R¹, R², R³, A, X, B, n, m and p are as defined in claim 36.

Claim 55 (new): A process according to claim 54 characterised in that the resulting reaction mixture is purified by solid phase extraction.

Claim 56 (new): A compound of formula (III)



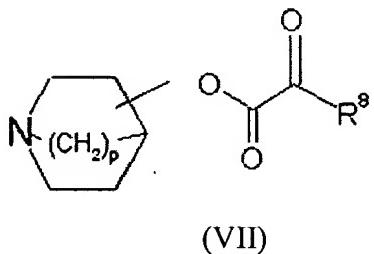
(III)

wherein B and p are as defined in claim 36, and wherein the substituent on the azoniabicyclo group has (R)- configuration.

Claim 57 (new): A compound according to claim 56 which is

9-Methyl-9[H]-fluorene-9-carboxylic acid 1-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3(R)-yl ester; 9-Methyl-9[H]-xanthene-9-carboxylic acid 1-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3(R)-yl ester;
2-Hydroxy-2,2-difuran-2-yl-acetic acid -azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3(R)-yl ester.

Claim 58 (new): A compound of formula (VII)



wherein p and R⁸ are as defined claim 36, and wherein the substituent on the azoniabicyclo group has (R) configuration.

Claim 59 (new): A compound according to claim 58, wherein R⁸ is a 2-thienyl or 2-furyl group.

Claim 60 (new): A compound according to claim 58 which is
Oxothien-2-yl-acetic acid 1-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3(R)-yl ester; or Oxofuran-2-yl-acetic acid 1-azabicyclo[2.2.2]oct-3(R)-yl ester.

Claim 61 (new): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 36 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 62 (new): A method for treating respiratory, urinary and/or gastrointestinal disease which method comprises administering to a human or animal patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 36-53 or of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 61.

Claim 63 (new): A method for treating COPD, chronic bronchitis, asthma and/or rhinitis which method comprises administering to a human or animal patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 36-53 or of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 61.